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**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)	)	Balakrishnan SRIDHAR et al.
Application No.	)	10/716,609
Filing Date	)	November 20, 2003
Title	)	METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR OPTICAL AMPLIFYING DEVICE GAIN CONTROL WITH GAIN THRESHOLD
Examiner	)	Ari M. Diacou
Art Unit	)	3663

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 USA

## **RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

## Dear Sir/Madam:

In response to the non-final Office Action mailed January 23, 2006, rejecting Claims 15-21 and 23-30 and objecting to Claims 22 and 31 of the above-referenced Application, in which Claims 15-31 are pending (Claims 1-14 having been previously withdrawn in response to an election/restriction requirement), Applicants respectfully request that the following remarks be considered, without prejudice or disclaimer to continued examination on the merits.